



## Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

### Berea Artist Neil Di Teresa to Demonstrate Acrylic Painting at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

**Release Date**

**Aug. 27, 2013**

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**BEREA, Ky.** – Berea artist Neil Di Teresa will demonstrate his acrylic painting techniques Saturday, Sept. 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

A New Yorker by birth, Di Teresa came to live and work as a full professor of art at Berea College in 1962. Recently retired, Di Teresa has studied, done research and has been visiting senior professor at Darwin College, University of Kent, Canterbury, England. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Pratt Institute in New York, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Having spent his early years in an intense urban environment where the landscape was almost entirely man-made, Di Teresa spent his later years in the foothills of the Appalachians. Living in Berea, he came to believe that simplicity, especially in art, is a virtue.

"I would like my personal mark to have a clarity and directness – like the tracks of the jackrabbit in the spring snow," he said.

While primarily a painter, Di Teresa also works in woodcuts, cast paper, puppetry and drawing. He has been the director of the *Summer Puppetry Caravan for Appalachia* since 1970. The subjects in his paintings often have same the clean look and feel of his woodcuts. Working in acrylic, watercolor and oils, some favorite subjects include Holstein cows, crows and wise old faces and figures.

Di Teresa's work is in numerous corporate collections and museums, including the Charleston Museum of Art in West Virginia.

Works by Di Teresa are regularly available at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea Exit 77. The center's exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the cafe open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Celebrating 10 years in 2013, the center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. Special exhibits include, "Capturing the Art of Sport: Works by Kentucky Artisans," on display through Feb. 22, 2014; and "The Founding of the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea" and "Highlights of the First 10 Years," on display in the lobby through Nov. 17, 2013. For more information about the center's events call 859-985-5448, visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center](http://www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center), or go to the center's website at [www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov](http://www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov).

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Neil Di Teresa demonstrates acrylic painting at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea